

QUARTERS ONE

The United States Army Chief of Staff's Residence

Fort Myer, Virginia



Suzanne Mowbray

FRONT COVER
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An original watercolor by
Susan Mountcastle

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QUARTERS ONE

The United States Army Chief of Staff's Residence

Fort Myer, Virginia

by

William Gardner Bell

Center of Military History
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New Portrait

Foreword

[new--to be added]

PETER J. SCHOOMAKER
Chief of Staff, Army

Preface

Although Quarters One was built more than eighty years ago, in historic surroundings and with historic connections, it has had little attention. This lack of attention is surprising when one considers the line of succession of quarters residents; some of the United States Army's, indeed America's, leading families have lived in this house which, since 1908, has been the Chief of Staff's home. The officers have played leading roles in national as well as military life, in peace and war. One became President of the United States.

The purpose of this booklet is to sketch the history of the building, trace the human spirit that transformed the house into a home, and acknowledge the building's distinction as an official mansion. Because of an imbalance in the availability of information and of appropriate photographs, it was not possible to treat residents in depth or in a uniform way. Yet that was neither necessary nor desirable, for the building is the centerpiece of the presentation.

Arline Weyand, Quarters One's hostess from October 1974 to September 1976 when her husband, General Frederick C. Weyand, was the Army's Chief of Staff, deserves special mention where the history of the house is concerned. Sensitive to the building's unique status and interested in the experiences of other residents, Mrs. Weyand wrote to a number of the ladies who had lived in or visited Quarters One to ask for their recollections and, where available, some pictures. Many responded, and Mrs. Weyand assembled their materials into a starter archives on the quarters.

Bits and pieces of the Quarters One story reside in engineer files and in published autobiographical or biographical accounts of the building's officer tenants. Unfortunately, the coverage is little more than that; bits and pieces. What is lacking is the woman's view, the story from the center of quarters life, the intimate detail that is seen and experienced only by a hostess—wife, mother, daughter. Mrs. Weyand's collection fills the void only in part. It is regrettable that published diaries by Army wives are few, and of life in Quarters One almost nonexistent. Only Katherine Tupper Marshall, a Quarters One hostess, has provided, in her book, *Together: Annals of an Army Wife*, a relatively sustained account of life in the grand old building.

Despite enforced disparities, textual and graphic, in the approach to family coverage in this booklet, the variety represented in the vignettes contributes, in the end, to a rounded story on Quarters One and a fascinating look at a unique phase of Army life.

Washington, D.C.
1981

WILLIAM GARDNER BELL

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(Will edit Final Version)

The Defense of Washington



"With respect to security against attacks of an Enemy, no place can have advantages superior to the federal City and Alexandria. Should proper works be erected . . . at the junction of the Potomac and Piscataqua creek, it would not be in the power of all the navies in Europe to pass that place, and be afterward in a situation to do mischief above" Thus wrote George Washington in September 1798 as the new capital city took shape.



"The people of Virginia have . . . allowed this giant insurrection to make its nest within her borders, and this government has no choice but to deal with it where it finds it." At 2 a.m. on 23 May 1861, the day after Virginia ratified her ordinance of secession, President Lincoln sent federal troops across the Potomac River to fortify the hills and ridges overlooking the capital city from the South.

As the nation's first commanding general and first president, George Washington had a natural instinct for protecting the capital. Although he had moved into retirement after completing his second term as the country's chief executive, his deflection from the mainstream of events was short-lived. In 1798, as French and British contentions reached out to the New World and the prospect of war with France loomed, President John Adams recalled Washington to active service as commander in chief of "all the armies raised or to be raised for the service of the United States."

Washington was sure that it would be the policy of the country "to create such a navy as will protect our commerce from the insults and depredations to which it has been Subjected of late," and equally certain that "no place either north or south of [Washington] can be more effectively secured against the attack of an Enemy."

War with France slipped by, along with the opportunity to test, in his lifetime, Washington's theory as to the capital city's invulnerability to enemy mischief. Washington did not live to see his namesake city attacked in 1814 by British troops who left the official buildings in smoking ruins, or see British ships sail past his home and the key defensive work of Fort Washington, to plunder Alexandria and drop safely back down the Potomac river. It would take more than advantageous terrain to protect the city.

Those who would have used the disaster as an excuse to relocate the capital were doomed to disappointment. Congress rejected a bill for removal, rebuilding was started, and Washington "rose like the phoenix from the flames."

Four and a half decades passed before the nation's capital became vulnerable once again to the aggression of an enemy, and this time the threat proved to be internal rather than external. The slavery issue had divided the North and South, the southern states had seceded from the Union, Fort Sumter had surrendered to Confederate forces, and President Abraham Lincoln, within six weeks of his inauguration on 4 March 1861, had issued a proclamation declaring the southern states in insurrection.

As the contending governments mobilized their forces and developed their operational plans, Lincoln looked out upon an almost undefended capital city, boxed in by the Confederate state of Virginia just across the Potomac River to the south and the border state of Maryland with its Southern sympathizers to the north. Aware of the potent propaganda coup that capture of the Union capital would deliver to the enemy, Lincoln issued orders for mobilizing troop units to garrison the city, then moved to occupy Arlington Heights across the Potomac River before Confederate forces could seize the dominating terrain and bring the federal city within range of their guns.

The Union defeat at Bull Run in July 1861 disabused those who thought the rebellion could be put down overnight, revealed how vulnerable the capital really was, and demonstrated the need for more permanent defenses around Washington's perimeter. A presidential commission met to plan the work, and, step-by-step, a cordon of fortifications was constructed to protect the federal city. The South, with mobilization problems of its own, sacrificed a golden opportunity.



Fort Whipple and Fort Myer



Fort Whipple, an earth and wood fortification whose engineer design plan is shown above, was constructed in 1863 on Arlington Heights northwest of the Lee Mansion and within the present Fort Myer. In the scene below, the Union artillery garrison stands to its guns.



A sharp escalation in the intensity and scope of the war, the increasing proximity of regional actions, and a respect for the abilities of enemy leaders like Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson lent credence to the threat to the Union capital. In October 1862, at President Lincoln's behest, Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton appointed a commission to look into "the efficiency of the present system of defense for the city." The commission recommended that the defensive cordon already in place be strengthened with "a work on the spur behind Forts Cass and Tillinghast, which shall see into the gorges of these works, give an important fire upon the high ground in front of the line, and flank that line from Fort Woodbury to Fort DeKalb."

Construction of this main work on Arlington Heights, overlooking Washington and Georgetown to the north and the undulating Virginia countryside to the south, was begun in the spring of 1863. It received its official name, Fort Whipple, on 12 June, and its first occupants were artillery and infantry units.

If Fort Whipple were placed on the land within present-day Fort Myer, its outline would extend roughly along a line originating at Quarters Thirteen and project to the corner of Grant and Jackson Avenues, across to Quarters Six, thence to Wainwright Hall skirting Quarters One, and finally back to Quarters Thirteen to complete the redoubt.

Fort Whipple's defenses were never tested. That distinction fell to Fort Stevens on the northern perimeter, where General Jubal Early's attack in July 1864 was repulsed as President Lincoln looked on from the parapet.

Several years passed before any permanent type of construction supplanted Fort Whipple's earthworks, tentage, and first generation frame structures. Then, more time elapsed before a name change brought the military installation into its modern configuration as Fort Myer. By the late 1860s the Signal Corps had taken over the site, and by 1872 new construction had added a hospital, barracks, kitchen, and guardhouse. A pair of one-story buildings, in use as quarters for students being trained in meteorological observation, also contained storerooms and offices. The buildings, identified in contemporary documentation as "officer quarters," were considered to be "old and unfit for the purpose." A peacetime viewpoint appeared to have set in.

Year by year, as funds were appropriated for construction and utilization was expanded, the post's future became increasingly secure. In the decades of the seventies, eighties, and nineties, the physical plant was enlarged and complex land problems were ironed out. On 4 February 1881, Fort Whipple was renamed Fort Myer, primarily to honor the late General Myer but also to eliminate confusion raised by the existence of a second Fort Whipple in Arizona.

Any doubt about Fort Myer's prospects evaporated when, on 4 February 1902, a board of officers, convened to consider and report on the location and distribution of military installations throughout the United States, recommended that Fort Myer, Virginia, be retained as a permanent post.

Given its location, associations, and use, the decision could not have gone any other way. Fort Myer was destined to be the capital's anchor post.

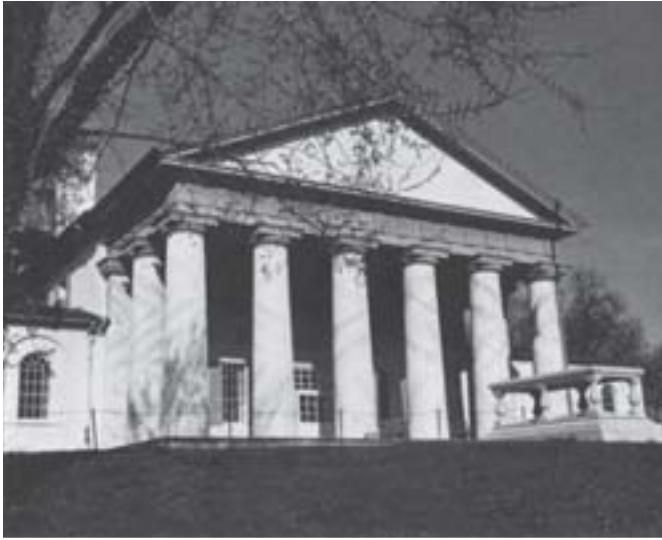
Brevet Major General Amiel Weeks Whipple, U.S. Military Academy, 1841, served on the frontier before the Civil War, commanded elements of the Washington defense forces, and was a division commander at Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville. Mortally wounded in the latter battle, he died at Washington on 7 May 1863. Fort Whipple, completed in June, was named in his honor.



Brigadier General Albert James Myer entered the Army in 1854 as an assistant surgeon. He turned to communications and meteorology, and under his leadership the foundations of the Signal Corps and Weather Bureau were laid. He was the Army's first Chief Signal Officer, and from 1869 to 1880 commanded the Signal School and Fort Whipple. The post was renamed in his honor after his death in 1880.



The Heritage and the Activities



The Custis-Lee Mansion is a centerpiece on Arlington Heights.

Fort Myer's garrison guards the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.



Quarters One, Fort Myer, and Arlington Cemetery occupy land that was part of a tract of almost 1,100 acres purchased by John Parke Custis, the only son of Martha Washington by her first marriage. He was raised at Mount Vernon, married, and died while serving as General Washington's aide at Yorktown. Two of Custis' children—George Washington Parke and Eleanor—were raised by the Washingtons, and after their deaths, George Washington Parke moved to the Arlington estate and began to construct Arlington House. He married, and a daughter, Mary Anna Randolph Custis, the only one of four children to survive, grew up on the estate. In 1831 she married Lieutenant Robert E. Lee, and they resided at Arlington House when Army duty permitted their presence at home.

As the nation divided and the Lees cast their allegiance with the South, the government placed troops on Arlington Heights, levied a tax on the property, and, upon default by the absentee owners, purchased the estate at public sale for \$26,800. In June 1864 Secretary of War Stanton designated Arlington House and 200 surrounding acres as a national cemetery, and in July 1872 Secretary of War Belknap designated all that part of the estate outside the cemetery walls as the military reservation of Fort Whipple.

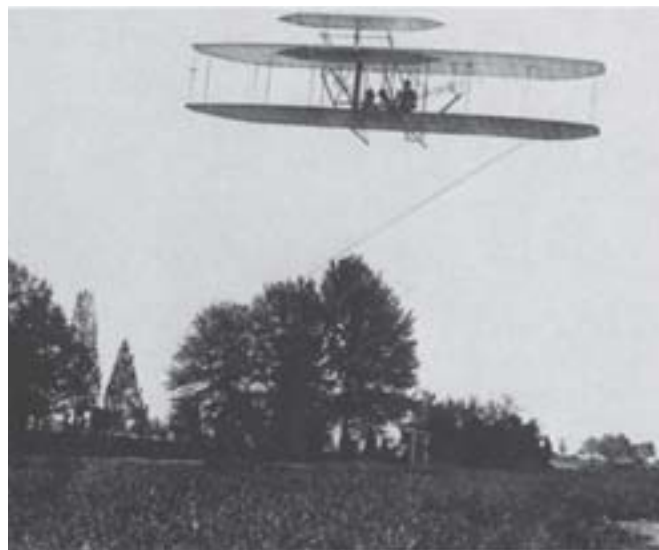
Mrs. Lee's parents died in the 1870s, leaving the estate to her. She, in turn, willed the property to her son, Custis, who, upon her death, sued the government successfully for its 1864 actions in a case that proceeded all the way to the Supreme Court. In 1883 Custis Lee relinquished his title to the property for the sum of \$150,000.

Thus, the modern outlines took shape.

For about five years following its redesignation as Fort Myer, the post was garrisoned by Signal Corps troops and its communications mission continued. Then in 1887, with General Philip H. Sheridan in the senior uniformed officer chair, Fort Myer was designated a cavalry post, and from then until 1942 some of the Army's most celebrated mounted regiments formed the garrison. Horsemanship was a central activity, especially in the period between the World Wars, when the Army had a leading role in Olympic equestrian activities.

Fort Myer was also the site for the earliest developments in the field of Army aviation. The Wright brothers had contracted with the Signal Corps to build a biplane and instruct two operators in its use. On 9 September 1908, Orville Wright made fifty-seven complete circles over the drill field. A crash on 17 September, in which Lieutenant Thomas E. Selfridge was fatally injured, was only a temporary setback, and military acceptance followed in 1909.

The year of that first test flight at Fort Myer was also the year when Quarters One on Officers Row became the designated official residence of the Army's Chief of Staff. As an established post with easy access to Army headquarters, initially in the District of Columbia and later in the Pentagon on the Virginia side of the Potomac River, Fort Myer has been home for a number of the highest-ranking officers of the Department of Defense. Since 1948, elements of the 3d Infantry, complemented by the U.S. Army Band, have formed the post garrison. Together they comprise the formal military elements for the impressive ceremonies so traditional with the nation's capital.



Orville Wright demonstrated his plane at Fort Myer in 1908.

As a cavalry post, Fort Myer witnessed the best in equestrian skill.



Quarters One



Exterior view of Quarters One, March 1954, then home of General and Mrs. Matthew Ridgeway.

To the Official Rooms for Entertainment . . .

A Victoria-style red brick house, built on Fort Myer's ridge, Quarters One was completed on 27 May 1899, 38 years almost to the day after Abraham Lincoln sent Union troops across the Potomac River to occupy Arlington Heights. Set on a stone foundation and topped by a slate roof, the house was built by the Quartermaster Corps according to Plan 95, a model still to be seen at a number of the older and more permanent posts. The 40-by-54 foot structure cost \$18,471, a modest figure by today's standard. There were shutters at the windows and the porches were screened. The main floor had a living room, dining room, kitchen, hallway, and one bedroom.

The building was intended to be the residence of the post commander. As Fort Myer had a full dozen of that official between 1899 and 1903, it is difficult to determine which of them occupied the quarters during that period. From 1903 to 1908, however, it was home for Major General Charles F. Humphrey, the Quartermaster General of the Army. Upon his departure, Major General and Mrs. J. Franklin Bell moved in. He had been appointed Chief of Staff in 1906, the fourth officer to hold the title after its inception in 1903. His three predecessors—Generals Samuel B. M. Young, Adna R. Chaffee, and John C. Bates—had all lived off post in the Washington area, as had General and Mrs. Bell during his first two years as the Army's senior uniformed officer. Some, but by no means all, of these officers owned permanent family residences in the city of Washington, useful as a base of operations in light of the periodic rotation in assignments and the almost inevitable return for duty at the capital.



Today's Quarters One, August 2005

Rooms of Quarters One



Library



Foyer



Sun Porch



Living Room, and sitting room areas





Dining Room



The Bob Hope Room, the best view of Washington, D.C. a favorite place for most guests. This painting (Inset) titled: Bob Hope entertaining troops somewhere in England still hangs in this room



Guest Room

Occupants of Quarters One



General Bell was the first Chief of Staff to live in Quarters One.

General and Mrs. Wood with their three children, the family pets, and aides, on the quarters lawn after horseback riding. Daughter Luisita, left, pleased her father with her skill in handling horses.



J. Franklin Bell (1906—1910)

During his first two years in Washington, General Bell lived in an apartment. He and his wife Betsy, he informed Mrs. William Howard Taft, “both disliked to live in a hotel or apartment house.” One may imagine their pleasure when they moved into Quarters One on 1 June 1908. The trip from Fort Myer to his State-War-Navy Building office would be longer, but there were compensations; General Bell became the first Chief of Staff to commute by automobile. The expanded official obligations upon a Chief of Staff led to the first major modifications to Quarters One—construction of the east wing containing the large main dining room on the first floor and the master bedroom above. Closets, dressing rooms, and baths were included in the project. Total cost as \$16,341.

Leonard Wood (1910—1914)

For General Wood, Fort Myer proved to be an ideal base for family activities, and Quarters One echoed with sound. “Out for an early morning ride” became a familiar entry in the Wood diary. Louise Wood shared her husband’s rides in the rolling Virginia countryside, and Leonard, Jr., Osborne, and daughter, Luisita, all joined in the sport. During the Wood family’s occupancy, there were some further modifications to Quarters One. The original ground floor bedroom, remade into a library in 1911, was extended from 16 to 31 feet, and in 1914 a bathroom was added. A sleeping porch was constructed on the second floor, and the main stairway was extended to the third floor, all at a cost of \$3,963.

Hugh L. Scott (1914—1917)

Prominent international figures were frequent visitors at the Chief of Staff's home at Fort Myer. Once, during General Scott's incumbency, with World War battles raging in Western Europe, French Marshal Joffre and British General Bridges came to Quarters One to dine with the American Chief of Staff and his wife Mary. They were met at the door by the Scotts' little grandson, who honored the French marshal with a snappy salute and an enthusiastic "Vive la France!" after which Joffre responded with a kiss. Mrs. Scott presided over the Chief of Staff's residence for extended periods, for General Scott was called to the frontier during 1914 and 1915 for peacekeeping missions to several Indian tribes, and in 1917 he visited Russia with the Root Commission.

Peyton C. March (1918—1921)

When General March became Chief of Staff in 1918 and moved into Quarters One for a three-year tour, he had been a widower for fourteen years. He would not remarry until 1923. Thus, his daughter, Mrs. John Millikin, whose husband was with the expeditionary forces overseas, served as hostess, and her son, John, Jr., spent his first year with his grandfather in Quarters One. How much time they had together is questionable, for General March, during wartime, got up at six, was at his desk at eight, lunched there, took one hour for dinner at home, then returned to his office to work until midnight, Sundays included. In between the flood of official cables, General March sent a terse one to Major Millikin announcing the birth of the major's son: "Wife and son doing well. March."



As Chief of Staff, General Scott spent almost as much time in the field as at the capital. Quarters One often saw him in dress uniform, but on the frontier the campaign hat was customary.

General March, flanked by his daughter Mildred, her husband, Major Millikin, and the latter's sister, attended a football game at Georgetown in 1920. Mildred, center, was hostess at Quarters One.





General and Mrs. Hines had the pleasure of occupying Quarters One for four years, and Mrs. Hines often took advantage of a summer day to sit outdoors with her grandson, John Cleland, Jr.

General Summerall presented the MacArthur Medal to outstanding trainees at Fort Myer, Virginia, in 1929. The ceremony took place on Summerall Field, the parade ground named in his honor.



John L. Hines (1924—1926)

Chief of Staff occupancy of Quarters One was interrupted in 1921 when General Pershing entered office. A widower who preferred to live in town, he made the Fort Myer house available successively to his deputies, James G. Harbord and John Hines. The Hines family remained in the house when Hines succeeded Pershing as Chief of Staff, holding residence from 1923 to 1926. John and Rita Hines were the first tenants to prune the foliage on the quarters' east side to open the view to the capital. Among their prominent international visitors were Queen Marie of Rumania and the Crown Prince of Sweden. General Hines rode regularly, and his aide, Charles L. Bolte, recalled that he and the general would mount at the porch, dig in the spurs, and jump the hedge into Summerall Field.

Charles P. Summerall (1926—1930)

In October 1927, General Summerall, completing the first for four years as Chief of Staff, set out on an inspection tour of Army posts. He was 60, had a 35-year career behind him, and he and Laura Summerall had been married for 25 years—long enough to have experienced several different types of quarters and posts and to appreciate the privilege of living in Quarters One at Fort Myer. Speaking to large audiences at San Diego and San Francisco and drawing national press attention, Summerall called the Army's housing situation a disgrace, stating that soldiers were living like "immigrants" or like "prisoners of war," and not like soldiers of the United States. Consequently, the Chief of Staff was summoned home for a private audience with President Coolidge.

Douglas MacArthur (1930—1935)

General MacArthur's tour as Chief of Staff and occupancy of Quarters One proved to be a quiet time for the home. As he had been divorced from his first wife eighteen months before, his mother, Mrs. Arthur MacArthur, 78, joined him in residence at Fort Myer. But because she was in declining health and unable to fulfill the role of active hostess, General MacArthur was held aloof from the social whirl except for the most stringent of obligations. The situation was eased when his widowed sister-in-law, Mary McCalla MacArthur, joined the family circle and cared for the ailing parent. To facilitate his mother's movement in the quarters, General MacArthur had an elevator installed in 1931 at a cost of \$5,432.



General MacArthur became Chief of Staff in 1930, and Mrs. MacArthur joined her son (whose picture she holds) and became the Quarters One hostess.

Malin Craig (1935—1939)

General Craig, whose tour as Chief of Staff extended from October 1935 through August 1939, was, as eight of his predecessor, a graduate of the United States Military Academy. Indeed, both his father and his wife's were West Pointers. Thus, it was a military family in every sense that lived in Quarters One in the late 1930s. Genevieve Craig drew upon this unique background in 1936 to speak to the Society of Army Daughters about the sacrifices, hardships, and rewards of military life as experienced by her family and the two parental families. There were some further additions to the Chief of Staff's residence early in the Craig occupancy; a garage and porte-cochere were added at a cost of \$4,700, and new sinks were installed in the pantry and kitchen.



In the quiet times of the mid-1930s, General and Mrs. Craig enjoyed relaxing in the Quarters One sitting room to read and keep up with the news through radio broadcasts.



General and Mrs. Marshall enjoy coffee under the apple tree in the quarters garden. It is spring 1941, and the war raging in Europe has not yet involved the United States and the Army's Chief of Staff in five years of world conflict.

George C. Marshall (1939—1945)

General Marshall moved into Quarters One on 21 August 1939. Katherine Marshall and Mrs. Craig had discussed with the quartermaster what should be done to prepare the house for new tenants. In six weeks of modernization, an oil-burning heating plant, refrigerator, and dishwasher had been installed and painting, repapering, and plumbing were completed at a cost of \$12,854.60. General Marshall's tour, encompassed World War II. Consequently, national and international leaders visited the quarters, the phone rang constantly, and Katherine had to "fight to see George get some recreation and privacy." As a "first," Mrs. Marshall's daughter, Molly Brown, and Captain James J. Winn were married at Quarters One on Christmas Day, 1940.

General Eisenhower and Mamie



Dwight D. Eisenhower (1945—1948)

General Eisenhower's tour as Chief of Staff opened inauspiciously where Quarters One was concerned, for he was hospitalized at White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, to "shake off a particularly nasty cold." It was predictable that, during General and Mrs. Eisenhower's occupancy, they would entertain the Winston Churchills and Field Marshal Montgomery among others. They added a dressing room to the front bedroom and "Ike" used the second floor study to write *Crusade in Europe*. It was in the enclosed upstairs porch, where the family often gathered, that General Eisenhower sat for portraitist Thomas E. Stephens, became fascinated enough to say, "I'd like to try that," and, under the artist's tutelage, became involved in a major hobby. Mamie was his first subject.

Omar N. Bradley (1948—1949)

General Bradley's entitlement to Quarters One would have been brief had it been keyed to his tour as Chief of Staff, for he held the post only eighteen months. However, during his tour, organizational changes created the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and General Bradley became the first chairman of that body. He and Mary Bradley remained in Quarters One while his successor as Chief of Staff, J. Lawton Collins, resided at Fort McNair. The Bradley's found that the house was not up to the demands of modern living, especially concerning its electrical capability. General Bradley informed the next tenants, General and Mrs. Ridgway, that "every time he left he expected to come back and find it a pile of ashes" Fortunately, such a tragedy did not occur.

General and Mrs. Bradley strike a happy pose at Quarters One on the occasion of his advancement in 1949 from Chief of Staff to Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. They remained in residence until 1953.



Matthew B. Ridgway (1953—1955)

Alerted to Quarters One's problems, General Ridgway launched a major renovation, including a complete rewiring of the house and structural repairs to the dining room. His wife, Penny, redecorated the entire first floor and did some minor refurbishing upstairs. This badly needed renovation, costing \$35,242, was almost double the original construction outlay. In other decorative touches, photographic murals of West Point landmarks were mounted in the dining room, the gardens were landscaped, and a barbecue was installed on the patio. Among prominent guests who visited the quarters during General Ridgway's somewhat abridged tour as Chief of Staff were General Marshall, General Ayub Khan of Pakistan, and the Shah of Iran.

General and Mrs. Ridgway and their son, Matthew, Jr., pose in 1955 for a formal family picture in their Quarters One home. The backdrop painting of a Georgetown vista was done by Mrs. Ridgway.





Despite its function as an official residence, Quarters One is also a home. Many younger children have lived in the house while their father was in office; older ones often return for a visit. In 1958 General and Mrs. Taylor posed with their son, Tom, a student at West Point.

Maxwell D. Taylor (1955—1959)

The Taylors made few changes during their residence at Quarters One. They added a powder room downstairs (\$1,800) and a tub to the master bath. Lydia Taylor's pet parakeet, Kristy, after an initial crash, learned to negotiate the second floor in free flight and bait certain guests with a raucous "Beat Navy." General Taylor's linguistic skills and interest in other cultures were reflected in the often-multinational flavor of social functions in Quarters One during his family's residency. After his tour as Chief of Staff, General Taylor left the Army, not to relax in retirement, but to speak urgently in this book, *The Uncertain Trumpet*, to the question of America's declining military strength in a period of heightened international tension.



In addition to private and official entertaining in their Quarters One home, Chiefs of Staff are often honored by senior officials in formal functions at nearby Patton Hall. In 1959 Army Secretary and Mrs. Brucker, right, hosted a dinner for General and Mrs. Lemnitzer, left.

Lyman L. Lemnitzer (1959—1960)

General Lemnitzer was appointed Chief of Staff on 1 July 1959, and the Lemnitzers moved from the Vice Chief of Staff's residence at Fort McNair to Quarters One a few days later. His tour of fifteen months ended when he was advanced to the post of chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on 1 October 1960. President Eisenhower called him to the White House to ask that he personally resolve the problem of housing for the nation's senior uniformed official so that Quarters One would be available to the Army Chief of Staff. Upon General Lemnitzer's recommendation, Quarters Six, a duplex a few doors away, was reconstructed into a single residence and the Lemnitzers moved there in early January 1962. They left Quarters One with new dishes, a rose garden, and new azaleas.

George H. Decker (1960—1962)

Although General Decker had a full term as Chief of Staff, the Deckers had only a brief stay in Quarters One after the Lemnitzers vacated the Army Chief of Staff's house and moved to Quarters Six. As Katherine Lemnitzer put it, Quarters One was "left sort of raw" for Helen Decker. The Deckers walled up a door that led from the porch into the sitting room and enlarged the door between the dining room and kitchen. Built-in bookcases on the left of the hall door were placed on each side of the fireplace, and the Deckers had an expansible dining room table and thirty matching chairs made for the official dinners required of the Chief of Staff. In eight short months the Deckers did their part to make Quarters One a more efficient residence.

Social occasions are a part of the fabric of military life and contribute to the esprit and teamwork so essential in official relationships. General and Mrs. Lemnitzer, right, hosted a reception at Patton Hall honoring General and Mrs. Decker, left, their successors at Quarters One.



Earle G. Wheeler (1962—1964)

Quarters One has had a tendency to touch the sense of history that seems to flourish in the soldier's breast, and in his tour as Chief of Staff, and concurrent residence in the house on Arlington Heights, General Wheeler bore witness to and Frances Wheeler joined her husband in that predilection. Looking back over the line of succession and impressed by the building's designation in 1908 as the residence of the Army's senior uniformed officer, they honored the first such occupant by commissioning a portrait of General J. Franklin Bell for Quarters One's permanent collection. With respect to the capital city, Frances Wheeler selected wallpaper with a Mall motif for the gracious dining room so often seen by distinguished official visitors.

Inspection trips regularly take the Army Chief of Staff away from home, and, on occasion (and at personal expense), the wife may accompany her husband. There are always social events, as when General and Mrs. Wheeler, right, visited Sixth Army headquarters in San Francisco.





As it fronts upon the post flagpole and Myer Monument, Quarters One is at ringside for official ceremonies. The house formed a backdrop for General Johnson's greeting of the Peruvian Minister of War in 1966.

Harold K. Johnson (1964—1968)

There were both inside and outside improvements to the Quarters One house and grounds during General Johnson's occupancy as Chief of Staff. Two second floor bathrooms were modernized, and two marble fireplaces, salvaged from a cadet barracks that was torn down to make way for new construction at West Point, were installed in the living room and library. On the outside, the sandbased flagstone terrace, where Dorothy Johnson often entertained her friends, was set permanently in cement. Cherry trees were planted on both sides of Washington Avenue below the house, and in front of the quarters a large shade tree, deteriorating from age, was replaced by a maple. The Johnson's daughter, Ellen Kay, and her baby moved in while her husband served in Vietnam.



Quarters One is just a short distance from Summerall Field, site of many official ceremonies that require the participation of the Chief of Staff. General Westmoreland officiated at General McChristian's retirement ceremony in 1971, trooping the line by Jeep.

William C. Westmoreland (1968—1972)

General Westmoreland's tour as Army Chief of Staff and residence at Quarters One had hardly begun when President Lyndon Johnson remarked to Kitsy Westmoreland that he understood the house had a spectacular view of the capital and asked when she was going to invite him to a little family dinner. Mrs. Westmoreland invited the Johnsons and General and Mrs. Wheeler, displayed the view, and topped off a successful dinner with rum pie. The dessert was a favorite of the President, who ate not only his portion but General Wheeler's as well. While in residence, General Westmoreland dubbed the third floor front bedroom the "Bob Hope Room" in honor of the popular comedian and entertainer of America's fighting men, who was an occasional guest.

Creighton W. Abrams (1972—1974)

When the Abrams family moved into Quarters One in October 1972 it was the kitchen's turn for renovation. When General Abrams was informed that it would cost \$300 to restore the large butcher block table, his reaction was a resounding "baloney," and he refinished the table himself. Julie Abrams replaced the dining room wallpaper in the Mall motif, had the sofas re-covered, and planted large number of tulips in the garden. In June 1974, General Abrams was stricken with cancer and had a lung removed. He resumed work during convalescence, first at home and then at the office, but on 17 August he was hospitalized again. He died at Walter Reed Army Medical Center on 4 September 1974, the first Chief of Staff to succumb while in office and in residence at Quarters One.

Portrait of General Creighton Williams Abrams, Jr.



Mrs. Weyand held the bible as her husband was sworn in as Vice Chief on 1 August 1973. Fourteen months later he succeeded General Abrams as Chief of Staff and resident of Quarters One.

Fred C. Weyand (1974—1976)

General Weyand's two-year tour as Chief of Staff and occupancy of Quarters One proved to be of more than routine significance for the historic building. For even though all of the residents of the house had been aware of its associations and relationships, the Weyands were especially touched by its past, by their part in its present, and by its call upon the future. Reaching back a half-century to tap living memory, Arline Weyand wrote to former tenants and those who had had close contact with the mansion, to probe their recollections and capture their experiences. The responses, in word and picture, were assembled into a small but valuable archive at Quarters One. It remains there, a model for future residents to build upon.





The West Point fireplace and General Bell's portrait served as a backdrop when General and Mrs. Rogers posed for this picture in the Quarters One living room in 1979 as their residency was drawing to a close. During previous assignments in Washington, they had lived successively in Quarters 19A, 22A, and 8 at Fort Myer.

Bernard W. Rogers (1976—1979)

General Rogers was sworn in as Chief of Staff on 1 October 1976, and he and Mrs. Rogers moved into Quarters One on 22 October. Four days later they entertained his French counterpart, the first of eighteen Chiefs of Staff of foreign countries they would host in a tour extending to 22 June 1979. During that period they also entertained senior officials of the American government, including the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the Secretary of State, and Attorney General, and their wives. They paid tribute to former Secretaries of the Army and Chiefs of Staff with a Quarters One dinner, and Ann Rogers annually entertained the spouses of retired four-star generals and gave an opening tea for the Army Officers' Wives Club.



An anniversary in 1980 offered the ideal opportunity to assemble members of the Meyer family for this photo. General and Mrs. Meyer are flanked by Nancy and Stuart, while sons Doug, Tim, and Tom stand behind.

Edward C. Meyer (1979—1983)

General Meyer was sworn in as Chief of Staff on 22 June 1979. The Meyer family brought a versatile mix of furnishing to personalize their quarters. To complement the dining room's Hepplewhite sideboard, Carol Meyer added a hand-carved Indian screen and embellished the china closet with antique Dresden and Coulton-Burslem. The dining porch was enhanced with an Italian chandelier and with coffee and end tables designed by Mrs. Meyer. To the living room were added an Italian chandelier, a Dutch coffee server, and a century-old Japanese screen. The walls were decorated with a variety of art ranging from a painting of Estes Park by nationally famous landscape artist Charles Partridge Adams to a representation of the family by Tom Meyer.

John A. Wickham, Jr. (1983—1987)

Following his July 1983 appointment as Army Chief of Staff, General Wickham and his family remained in the Vice Chief's residence at Fort McNair while Quarters One was renovated from top to bottom. The Wickhams were thus able to move into a beautifully refurbished home. During their occupancy, Ann Wickham sought to recover Quarters One furniture that had been gradually shifted to other buildings; she also made a concerted effort to upgrade the book collection to ensure that the library lived up to its name and added materials to the quarters' historical archive. The Wickhams also arranged for the mounting of two historic guns in the yard. Named "L'Insatiable" and L'Insociable," the bronze pieces were cast in Strasbourg, France, by Joseph Berenger in 1756.

Daughter Lindsley's marriage to Captain Bill Harmer brought the Wickham family together in Quarters One in November 1983. Seated from right are General and Mrs. Wickham, Lindsley, and Ann Wickham's mother. Standing from right are sons Matthew and John Wickham, and Captain Harmer.



Carl E. Vuono (1987—1991)

Having occupied Quarters Two during a former Washington assignment, General Vuono and his family quickly adapted to their Quarters One surroundings when they moved in in mid-July 1987. Ever mindful of the mansion's history, they integrated gifts and furnishings of their predecessors with their own and conducted a number of house tours during their residency. Of special note was the restoration of the garden by members of the quarters staff. The Vuonos occupied the quarters during a particularly historic period which saw the end of the Cold War and visits to Washington by many of General Vuono's foreign counterparts.

The Vuono family gathered to see son Timothy receive his Regular Army commission in the library of Quarters One. Standing are Tim, General Vuono, and Jeff; seated, grandson Michael is flanked by Mrs. Vuono and his mother, Kathy Coldiron.





General Sullivan, his wife Gay, and their daughter Elizabeth sat for this family picture in Quarters One shortly after he became Chief of Staff. Like a number of his predecessors, General Sullivan served a year as Vice Chief of Staff of the Army.

Gordon R Sullivan (1991—1995)

General Sullivan was sworn in as Chief of Staff on 21 June 1991. The Sullivan family then moved into Quarters One from the Vice Chief's quarters at Fort Lesley J. McNair in July. While in residence, General Sullivan led the Army through a fundamental transformation, overseeing force reductions and base closures, doctrinal change, successes in peacekeeping, and efforts to move the Army into the information age. His long-standing interest in art, particularly as related to military subjects, is reflected in his editorship of *Portrait of an Army* and *Soldiers Serving the Nation*, visual records of the Army's history drawn from the Army Art Collection. General Sullivan retired from active service in June 1995.



General Reimer and his wife Mary Jo at one of the many official receptions held at Quarters One.

Dennis J. Reimer (1995—1999)

On June 1995, General Reimer was sworn in as the thirty-third Chief of Staff of the United States Army. As had several of their predecessors, General and Mrs. Reimer moved to Quarters One from the Vice Chief's quarters at Fort McNair. To the Reimers, every room in Quarters One carried its own special memories and significance. They prized sharing the history and beauty of their home with visitors, both military and civilian, from around the world since so much of the architecture, art, and memorabilia in the house reflects the Army's heritage. Until his retirement from active service in June 1999, General and Mrs. Reimer especially enjoyed evenings on the Quarters One porch, with its breathtaking vista of the capital skyline and the grounds of Fort Myer.

Eric K. Shinseki (1999—2003)

General Eric K. Shinseki took the oath of office as the Army's thirty-fourth Chief of Staff on 21 June 1999. The Shinsekis moved from the Vice Chief of Staff's quarters at Fort McNair to Quarters One that September. Extensive structural renovations were completed during the interim. During their thirty-four years of service, General and Mrs. Shinseki and their children have lived in Hawaii, Europe, and throughout the continental United States. The décor in Quarters One gracefully combines memorabilia of the Shinsekis' family and military life with the art and architecture of the residence itself.

The Shinseki family gathered for this picture in the living room of Quarters One in the summer of 2001. Counterclockwise from the right are son Ken, Ken's wife Barbara, granddaughter Jocelyn Kimi, daughter Lori, Lori's husband Tim Heaphy, grandson Joseph Aldunate, General Shinseki, General Shinseki's wife Patty, and granddaughter Carolyn Eve.



Peter Jan. Schoomaker (2003—)



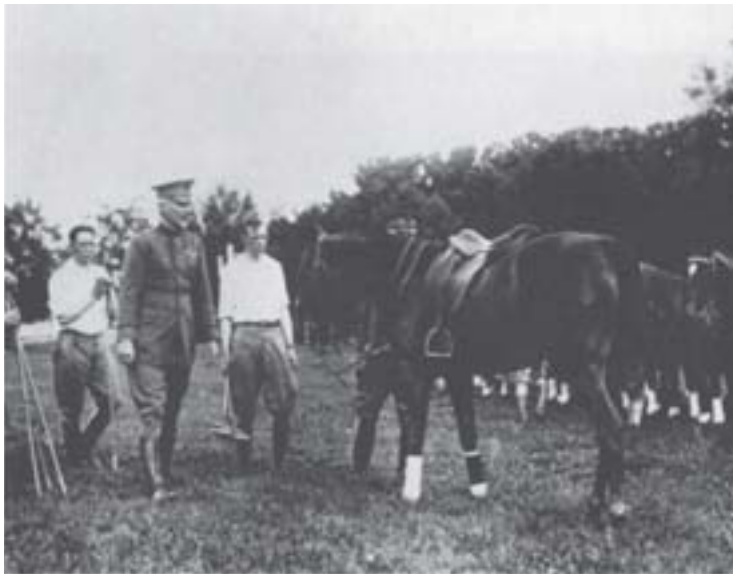
General Scenes in 1908—1948



General and Mrs. Bell with General Staff officers and their ladies assembled on Quarter One's steps in 1908.



General Leonard Wood engages in one of his favorite exercises, a morning ride. No matter what an officer's branch, equestrian activities were a part of the daily routine at Fort Myer until the horse was phased out of the military at the midpoint of the 20th century.



General Peyton C. March inspects polo ponies before a match.



General John J. Pershing, seen walking with Major General James G. Harbord in front of Army headquarters at the State-War-Navy building.



General Douglas MacArthur's automobile, parked at the door of Quarters One in 1930, depicts the changing times.



General Malin Craig posed, in front of the sitting room fireplace in Quarters One.



General and Mrs. George C. Marshall strolled frequently in the Quarters One garden with their Dalmation named Fleet.



In 1946 Mrs. Mamie Eisenhower watched over the vegetable garden adjacent to Quarters One that represented the food conservation program espoused by the Eisenhowers. Quarters One wives have regularly participated in public service activities.

General Scenes in 1949—1976



General and Mrs. Bradley sitting in Sun Room.



In 1960 General Lemnitzer greeted soldiers of the Honor Company, 1st Battle Group, 3d Infantry, who were performing sentry duty for the Quarters One area at Fort Myer. The Old Guard detachment was formed on the sidewalk in front of the house.



In 1955, General Ridgway, retiring Chief of Staff, and Mrs. Ridgway greeted a distinguished predecessor, General Marshall, at a farewell reception held in the home. General Marshall had a standing invitation to stay with the Ridgways at Quarters One.



In 1973 General Abrams presented the flag of the Vice Chief of Staff to General Weyand in a formal formation at Fort Myer. General Weyand would be his successor as Chief of Staff and Quarters One resident.

General Scenes in 1977—Present



Mrs. Shinseki ribbon cutting ceremony for KTM Library, 29 February 2000.



General and Mrs. Schoomaker at Christmas with son, and Secretary of the Army and Mrs. Rumsfeld



Army Chiefs of Staff and Their Wives

Chief of Staff	Wife	Term of Office	
Samuel Baldwin Marks Young*	Margaret Young	15 Aug 1903	8 Jan 1904
Adna Romanza Chaffee*	Kate Chaffee	9 Jan 1904	14 Jan 1906
John Coalter Bates*		15 Jan 1906	13 Apr 1906
J. Franklin Bell	Betsy Bell	14 Apr 1906	21 Apr 1910
Leonard Wood	Louise Wood	22 Apr 1910	20 Apr 1914
William W. Wotherspoon*	Mary Wotherspoon	21 Apr 1914	15 Nov 1914
Hugh L. Scott	Mary Scott	16 Nov 1914	21 Sep 1917
Tasker Howard Bliss*	Eleanore Bliss	22 Sep 1917	18 May 1918
Peyton C. March		19 May 1918	30 Jun 1921
John Joseph Pershing*		1 Jul 1921	13 Sep 1924
John L. Hines	Rita Hines	14 Sep 1924	20 Nov 1926
Charles P. Summerall	Laura Summerall	21 Nov 1926	20 Nov 1930
Douglas MacArthur		21 Nov 1930	1 Oct 1935
Malin Craig	Genevieve Craig	2 Oct 1935	31 Aug 1939
George C. Marshall	Katherine Marshall	1 Sep 1939	18 Nov 1945
Dwight D. Eisenhower	Mamie Eisenhower	19 Nov 1945	7 Feb 1948
Omar N. Bradley	Mary Bradley	7 Feb 1948	16 Aug 1949
Joseph Lawton Collins*	Gladys Collins	16 Aug 1949	15 Aug 1953
Matthew B. Ridgway	Penny Ridgway	16 Aug 1953	30 Jun 1955
Maxwell D. Taylor	Lydia Taylor	30 Jun 1955	30 Jun 1959
Lyman L. Lemnitzer	Katherine Lemnitzer	1 Jul 1959	30 Sep 1960
George H. Decker	Helen Decker	1 Oct 1960	30 Sep 1962
Earle G. Wheeler	Frances Wheeler	1 Oct 1962	2 Jul 1964
Harold K. Johnson	Dorothy Johnson	3 Jul 1964	2 Jul 1968
William C. Westmoreland	Kitsy Westmoreland	3 Jul 1968	30 Jun 1972
Creighton W. Abrams	Julie Abrams	12 Oct 1972	4 Sep 1974
Fred C. Weyand	Arline Weyand	3 Oct 1974	30 Sep 1976
Bernard W. Rogers	Ann Rogers	1 Oct 1976	21 Jun 1979
Edward C. Meyer	Carol Meyer	22 Jun 1979	21 Jun 1983
John A. Wickham, Jr.	Ann Wickham	23 Jul 1983	23 Jun 1987
Carl E. Vuono	Patricia Vuono	24 Jun 1987	21 Jun 1991
Gordon R. Sullivan	Gay Sullivan	21 Jun 1991	19 Jun 1995
Dennis J. Reimer	Mary Jo Reimer	20 Jun 1995	21 Jun 1999
Eric K. Shinseki	Patty Shinseki	22 Jun 1999	11 Jun 2003
Peter J. Schoomaker	Cindy Schoomaker	1 Aug 2003	

* Did not live at Quarters One

Suggested Readings

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A History of Fort Myer, Arlington, Virginia (June 21, 1988).
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The National Register of Historic Places, 1974 supplement (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1974).
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Forrest C. Pogue, *George C. Marshall: Education of a General* (New York: The Viking Press, 1963).
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Top (T)	Center (C)	Bottom (B)
Top left (TL)	Top center (TC)	Top right (TR)
Bottom left (BL)	Bottom center (BC)	Bottom right (BR)

Family Collections: 16(TR); 17(B); 29(T); 31(B); 32(T); 33(T)

Library of Congress: 7(Map); 8(T & B); 15 (TL & B); 16(B); 18(BL); 18–19(TC)

MacArthur Memorial: 17(TR)

National Archives: 6(T & B); 9(T & B); 11(T & B); 14(B); 15(TR); 19(TC, TR, BR)

National Park Service: 10(TL)

Marshall Library: 34–35

The Army Historical Program

Quarters One is one of many striking inheritances of the Army's past. Great commanders have often underscored the link between military leadership and a knowledge of the past. For over one hundred years the Army has fostered the study and use of history among its commissioned and noncommissioned officers. The Center of Military History is a visible manifestation of an institutional commitment to a full understanding of the Army's past, both its successes and failures, to prepare our leaders for an always uncertain future. To achieve this aim, Army historians must measure up to the professional standards of both the discipline of history and the profession of arms—Clio serving Mars.

The Center plays a vital role in military history education both through traditional instruction and through our ever busier website. In official histories and special studies for the Army's leaders, we investigate and analyze the decisions and decision-making processes of the past. To further the education of soldiers, we preserve through the oral history program the experiences of leaders who preceded us, and gather the art and artifacts of past wars into Army museums and our Army Art Collection. The Center also fosters the use of that unique training concept, the staff ride, especially important for young leaders who have yet to experience battle firsthand. Finally, through the military history detachments, we prepare the Army's uniformed historians to assume their duties in event of war or other hostilities.

The Center has yet another mission, to enhance an appreciation in the Army and in the general public for military traditions. Thus, it is entirely appropriate that the Center produce *Quarters One*, a publication designed to fix this unique building's special place in our nation's history. Situated on a historic post amid historic surroundings near the nation's capital, Quarters One has acquired through age and association a special status that fully warrants its present designation as a National Historic Landmark. In these pages we hope to demonstrate to our soldiers and distinguished guests a sense of this building's importance to the heritage of our Army.

JOHN S. BROWN
Brigadier General, USA (Ret.)
Chief of Military History

QUARTERS 1

HAS BEEN DESIGNATED A
REGISTERED NATIONAL
HISTORIC LANDMARK

UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE
HISTORIC SITES ACT OF AUGUST 21, 1935
THIS SITE POSSESSES EXCEPTIONAL VALUE
IN COMMEMORATING OR ILLUSTRATING
THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1973



The view of the capital city from Fort Myer